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EDITORIAL COMMENT

THE RECRUITING CAMPAIGN

As the literature regarding the campaign to be undertaken simultaneously by the Red Cross and our state associations, was sent out in July, we cannot expect to have reports of very vigorous work until fall, but we believe committees will be working out their plans and for that reason they will welcome the articles in this number of the JOURNAL written by Miss McClaskie, one of Michigan's workers, and by Miss Olmstead of the Central Council, giving details as to how such plans have been successfully worked out. The suggestion of having the talks to high school girls given by nurses in training is new to us and certainly commends itself as the best way of reaching those young women.

We regret that two inaccuracies regarding the Michigan campaign crept into last month's JOURNAL. The schools have not all their full quota, and the campaign was not inaugurated by the University of Michigan, but by the State Hospital Association. As these items were given to us, one by a national officer and the other by a Michigan nurse, we had not thought of questioning their reliability. We shall be very grateful to all news gatherers if they will make sure of the accuracy of what they send us.

In reporting the work of the Pennsylvania-Delaware campaign, Miss Moran states that last April, Elizabeth M. Walsh, field instructor for the Division, went on a tour, speaking in all the Delaware towns of sufficient size on Needs and Opportunities in the Public Health Nursing Field, but she did not confine her appeal to the public health field, alone, but urged young women to enter our schools of nursing.

The speaking tour lasted from April 7th through the month. Twenty-six groups were addressed, 2,242 persons were reached, and 80 application blanks were given out. Posters and literature are also being distributed in Delaware by the truck sent out by the State Tuberculosis Commission. At the state fair, to be held in September, the

Red Cross Chapter will have a large tent from which posters and literature will be distributed, and moving pictures will be used.

AN "S. O. S. CALL" FOR INSTRUCTORS

If the recruiting campaign is successful, and if the schools are filled with students eager for the best preparation, it will be exceedingly embarrassing should it prove that there are not enough instructors to teach the classes. Every nurse who has a good education, every one who has taught before taking her training, should consider carefully whether she is not most needed in the ranks of training school instructors, no matter how inviting other fields may seem to be. At Teachers College, alone, there are fifty more requests for instructors than can be filled. The "Want" columns of the JOURNAL are full of offers of positions in training schools, very few being from nurses seeking positions. We would suggest to nurses who are able and willing to fill such positions that they answer these advertisements and that they register with the Bureau of Information at 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, our new National Headquarters.

THE INTERSTATE SECRETARY

The work of the Interstate Secretary in actual speaking and visiting came to an end on July 1st. Several weeks were then spent at the JOURNAL office in filing and sorting correspondence and in classifying information, so that the next interstate secretary who may be appointed may go on with the work with a clear idea of what has been done during the past three years.

A committee of which Miss McMillan of the Presbyterian Hospital, Chicago, is chairman, is working to see whether funds cannot be raised by voluntary subscription by the states to continue the interstate work, and something over \$1,000 had been pledged when we heard the last report. It is hoped by many that the work which has proved of such great help and inspiration may not lapse, even though the maintenance cannot at present be provided, as has been done in the past, by the JOURNAL, the League and the American Nurses' Association. The Interstate Secretary has acted as a live connecting link between our national bodies and the scattered associations of which they are composed. The work may possibly be suspended for a time, as it has been, twice, in the past, but it will certainly be resumed, as it is of too great value to be finally dropped. Miss Eldredge's past year has been a very strenuous one and all who feel so indebted to her will be glad to know that she is having a good rest on the Maine coast.

ORGANIZED HELP FOR THE BLIND

The Commission for the Blind of New York City, is trying to secure information which will make it possible for it to get into touch with every blind man, woman and child in the state with the intention of organizing a local committee for the blind in each section where the need of such a committee exists. Possibly other states are undertaking similar work. Nurses can be of great help in such a movement by reporting to the central body all cases of blindness which come within their observation. The object of such committees would be, of course, to find occupation for all who are able to do something, or to secure for them such training as will make it possible for them to support themselves wholly or in part.

No one can think of what the loss of sight would mean to her without a pang of sympathy which should be expressed in the rendering of all possible service to those afflicted. New York nurses are asked to report cases of blindness to the Commission for the Blind, Hall of Records, New York. Nurses in other states should make themselves familiar with what is being done or what might be done for this handicapped portion of the community.

RANK FOR NURSES

The BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, in its issue of July 24, suggests that British nurses, encouraged by our success, shall ask for the rank that is now given their Canadian sisters. We heartily wish them success in their efforts.

The first step in working out the application of rank for nurses in this country, has been made by beginning at the top, in granting to Julia C. Stimson, head of the Army Nurse Corps, the rank of Major. This is as it should be. We congratulate Miss Stimson and hope the work will speedily go on, until all who are entitled to rank, receive it.

ANOTHER SOUTHERN PUBLIC HEALTH COURSE

The George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville, Tennessee, is offering a course in public health nursing to cover six months. Three of these are spent on the campus in theoretical subjects, and three are spent in field work which is being developed in coöperation with the Red Cross. During the first three months, regular academic credit is given for work accomplished, and for any work previously done, other courses may be substituted. There is a wide range of subject and an excellent preparation for the many forms of public health work. Dora M. Barnes is in charge of the course.

LIST OF ACCREDITED SCHOOLS

We are having daily orders for the list of Accredited Schools, but some who order it send only \$1.00, while many send \$1.02. The actual postage on the booklet is two cents, but the envelope and the postal of acknowledgment cost another two, so we are most grateful to those who send the full price, \$1.04. When we consider the clerical work involved, we know that we are handling these orders at an actual loss. We like to be generous and to promote the distribution of this valuable little book, compiled with so much pains and effort by Miss Wheeler and her committee, but with the present cost of manufacture, the JOURNAL, like all other magazines, is having difficulty in meeting its legitimate expenses, so we ask all our readers to help in every small way that is possible.

THE JOURNAL INDEX

With this issue of the JOURNAL, the twentieth volume is ended, and we shall follow our custom of the past two years and publish the index in a separate pamphlet which will be sent on request to those who desire it. Experience has proved that 500 copies are enough to supply all demands for the index, and the saving in paper and labor, between printing 500 and many thousands, justifies us in giving our subscribers the trouble of asking for the index.

THE MEMORIAL FUND

The very latest report gives us \$45,944.55 in the Memorial Fund, plus 240 francs, which would bring the amount to about \$45,960. This leaves us a little over \$4000 to raise. Can we not renew our efforts and make up the remainder before the year is ended? Dr. Hamilton writes of the joy with which her nurses are looking forward to their new home. We must not lag behind on the last lap of the race.